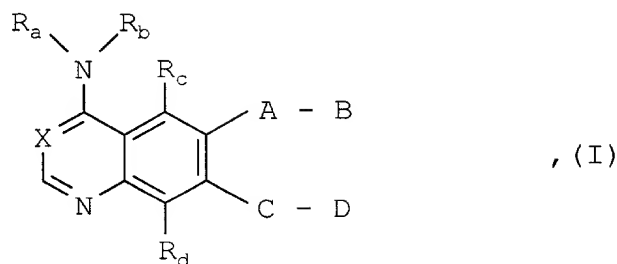


**We Claim:**

1. A compound of formula (I)



wherein:

R<sub>a</sub> is a hydrogen atom or a C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkyl group;

R<sub>b</sub> is a phenyl, benzyl, or 1-phenylethyl group wherein the phenyl nucleus is substituted in each case by R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, and R<sub>3</sub>, wherein:

R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub>, which are identical or different, each are:

- (i) a hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, or iodine atom,
- (ii) a C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkyl, hydroxy, C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkoxy, C<sub>3-6</sub>-cycloalkyl, C<sub>4-6</sub>-cycloalkoxy, C<sub>2-5</sub>-alkenyl, or C<sub>2-5</sub>-alkynyl group,
- (iii) an aryl, aryloxy, arylmethyl, or arylmethoxy group,
- (iv) a C<sub>3-5</sub>-alkenyloxy or C<sub>3-5</sub>-alkynyloxy group, wherein the unsaturated moiety thereof is not linked to the oxygen atom,
- (v) a C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkylsulfenyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkylsulfinyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkylsulfonyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkylsulfonyloxy, trifluoromethylsulfenyl, trifluoromethylsulfinyl, or trifluoromethylsulfonyl group,
- (vi) a methyl or methoxy group substituted by 1 to 3 fluorine atoms,
- (vii) an ethyl or ethoxy group substituted by 1 to 5 fluorine atoms, or
- (viii) a cyano or nitro group or an amino group optionally substituted by one or two C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkyl groups, wherein the substituents are identical or different, or

R<sub>1</sub> together with R<sub>2</sub>, if they are bound to adjacent carbon atoms, are a -CH=CH-CH=CH-, -CH=CH-NH-, or -CH=N-NH- group, and

R<sub>3</sub> is a hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, or bromine atom, or a C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkyl, trifluoromethyl, or C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkoxy group;

X is a methine group substituted by a cyano group or a nitrogen atom;

A is a group consisting of:

- (a)  $-O-C_{1-6}$ -alkylene,  $-O-C_{4-7}$ -cycloalkylene,  $-O-C_{1-3}$ -alkylene- $C_{3-7}$ -cycloalkylene,  $-O-C_{4-7}$ -cycloalkylene- $C_{1-3}$ -alkylene, or  $-O-C_{1-3}$ -alkylene- $C_{3-7}$ -cycloalkylene- $C_{1-3}$ -alkylene group, wherein the oxygen atom thereof in each case is linked to the bicyclic heteroaromatic moiety of formula (I),
- (b) an  $-O-C_{1-6}$ -alkylene group substituted by an  $R_6O-CO$  or  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group, wherein the oxygen atom of the  $-O-C_{1-6}$ -alkylene group is linked to the bicyclic heteroaromatic moiety of formula (I),
- (c) an  $-O-C_{2-6}$ -alkylene group substituted at a position other than position 1 by a hydroxy,  $C_{1-4}$ -alkoxy, amino,  $C_{1-4}$ -alkylamino, di- $(C_{1-4}$ -alkyl)-amino, pyrrolidino, piperidino, morpholino, piperazino, or 4- $(C_{1-4}$ -alkyl)-piperazino group, wherein the oxygen atom of the  $-O-C_{2-6}$ -alkylene group is linked to the bicyclic heteroaromatic moiety of formula (I),
- (d) a  $-C_{1-6}$ -alkylene group,
- (e) an  $-NR_4-C_{1-6}$ -alkylene,  $-NR_4-C_{3-7}$ -cycloalkylene,  $-NR_4-C_{1-3}$ -alkylene- $C_{3-7}$ -cycloalkylene,  $-NR_4-C_{3-7}$ -cycloalkylene- $C_{1-3}$ -alkylene, or  $-NR_4-C_{1-3}$ -alkylene- $C_{3-7}$ -cycloalkylene- $C_{1-3}$ -alkylene group, wherein the  $-NR_4$ - moiety thereof in each case is linked to the bicyclic heteroaromatic moiety of formula (I),
- (f) an oxygen atom linked to a carbon atom of the group B, or
- (g) a  $NR_4$  group linked to a carbon atom of the group B,

B is a group consisting of:

- (a) an  $R_6O-CO$ -alkylene- $NR_5$ ,  $(R_7O-PO-OR_8)$ -alkylene- $NR_5$ , or  $(R_7O-PO-R_9)$ -alkylene- $NR_5$  group, wherein in each case the alkylene moiety, which is straight-chained and

- (b) a 4- to 7-membered alkyleneimino group substituted by an  $R_6O-CO$ ,  $(R_7O-PO-OR_8)$ ,  $(R_7O-PO-R_9)$ ,  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, bis- $(R_6O-CO)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl,  $(R_7O-PO-OR_8)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, or  $(R_7O-PO-R_9)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group,
- (c) a 4- to 7-membered alkyleneimino group substituted by two  $R_6O-CO$  or  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl groups or by an  $R_6OCO$  group and an  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group,
- (d) a piperazino or homopiperazino group substituted in each case at the 4 position by  $R_{10}$  and additionally substituted at a cyclic carbon atom thereof by an  $R_6O-CO$ ,  $(R_7O-PO-OR_8)$ ,  $(R_7O-PO-R_9)$ ,  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, bis- $(R_6O-CO)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl,  $(R_7O-PO-OR_8)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, or  $(R_7O-PO-R_9)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group,
- (e) a piperazino or homopiperazino group substituted in each case at the 4 position by  $R_{10}$  and additionally substituted at cyclic carbon atoms thereof by two  $R_6O-CO$  or  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl groups or by an  $R_6O-CO$  group and an  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group,
- (f) a piperazino or homopiperazino group substituted in each case at the 4 position by an  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, bis- $(R_6O-CO)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl,  $(R_7O-PO-OR_8)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, or  $(R_7O-PO-R_9)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group,
- (g) a piperazino or homopiperazino group substituted in each case at the 4 position by an  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, bis- $(R_6O-CO)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl,  $(R_7O-PO-OR_8)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, or  $(R_7O-PO-R_9)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group and additionally substituted at cyclic carbon atoms thereof by one or two  $R_6O-CO$  or  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl groups or by an  $R_6O-CO$  group and an  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group,
- (h) a morpholino or homomorpholino group substituted in each case by an  $R_6O-CO$ ,  $(R_7O-PO-OR_8)$ ,  $(R_7O-PO-R_9)$ ,  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, bis- $(R_6O-CO)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl,  $(R_7O-PO-OR_8)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, or  $(R_7O-PO-R_9)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group,

- (i) a morpholino or homomorpholino group substituted in each case by two  $R_6O-CO$  or  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl groups or by an  $R_6O-CO$  group and an  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group,
- (j) a pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, or hexahydroazepinyl group substituted in each case at the 1 position by  $R_{10}$ , wherein the 5 to 7-membered rings thereof in each case are additionally substituted at a carbon atom thereof by an  $R_6O-CO$ ,  $(R_7O-PO-OR_8)$ ,  $(R_7O-PO-R_9)$ ,  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, bis- $(R_6O-CO)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl,  $(R_7O-PO-OR_8)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, or  $(R_7O-PO-R_9)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group,
- (k) a pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, or hexahydroazepinyl group substituted in each case at the 1 position by  $R_{10}$ , wherein the 5 to 7-membered rings thereof in each case are additionally substituted at carbon atoms thereof by two  $R_6O-CO$  or  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl groups or by an  $R_6O-CO$  group and an  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group,
- (l) a pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, or hexahydroazepinyl group substituted in each case at the 1 position by an  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, bis- $(R_6O-CO)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl,  $(R_7O-PO-OR_8)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, or  $(R_7O-PO-R_9)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group,
- (m) a pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, or hexahydroazepinyl group substituted in each case at the 1 position by an  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, bis- $(R_6O-CO)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl,  $(R_7O-PO-OR_8)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, or  $(R_7O-PO-R_9)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group, wherein the 5- to 7-membered rings thereof in each case are additionally substituted at carbon atoms thereof by one or two  $R_6O-CO$  or  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl groups or by an  $R_6O-CO$  group and an  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group,
- (n) a 2-oxomorpholino group substituted by 1 to 4  $C_{1-2}$ -alkyl groups,
- (o) a 2-oxomorpholinyl group substituted at the 4 position by a hydrogen atom, or by a  $C_{1-4}$ -alkyl,  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl,  $(R_7O-PO-OR_8)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, or  $(R_7O-PO-R_9)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group, wherein the 2-oxomorpholinyl group thereof is linked to a carbon atom of the group A, and

(p) an  $R_{11}NR_5$  group, or

A together with B are a group consisting of:

- (a) a hydrogen, fluorine, or chlorine atom,
- (b) a  $C_{1-6}$ -alkoxy group,
- (c) a  $C_{2-6}$ -alkoxy group substituted at a position other than position 1 by a hydroxy,  $C_{1-4}$ -alkoxy, amino,  $C_{1-4}$ -alkylamino, di- $(C_{1-4}$ -alkyl)-amino, pyrrolidino, piperidino, hexahydroazepino, morpholino, homomorpholino, piperazino, 4- $(C_{1-4}$ -alkyl)-piperazino, homopiperazino, 4- $(C_{1-4}$ -alkyl)-homopiperazino, or 1-imidazolyl group,
- (d) a  $C_{1-4}$ -alkoxy group substituted by a pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, or hexahydroazepinyl group substituted at the 1 position by  $R_{10}$ ,
- (e) a  $C_{1-6}$ -alkoxy group substituted by an  $R_6O-CO$ ,  $(R_7O-PO-OR_8)$ , or  $(R_7O-PO-R_9)$  group,
- (f) a  $C_{3-7}$ -cycloalkoxy or  $C_{3-7}$ -cycloalkyl- $C_{1-4}$ -alkoxy group,
- (g) an amino,  $C_{1-4}$ -alkylamino, di- $(C_{1-4}$ -alkyl)-amino, pyrrolidino, piperidino, hexahydroazepino, morpholino, homomorpholino, piperazino, 4- $(C_{1-4}$ -alkyl)-piperazino, homopiperazino, or 4- $(C_{1-4}$ -alkyl)-homopiperazino group, and
- (h) a 2-oxomorpholino group optionally substituted by 1 or 2 methyl groups;

C is a group consisting of:

- (a) an  $-O-C_{1-6}$ -alkylene,  $-O-C_{4-7}$ -cycloalkylene,  $-O-C_{1-3}$ -alkylene- $C_{3-7}$ -cycloalkylene,  $-O-C_{4-7}$ -cycloalkylene- $C_{1-3}$ -alkylene, or  $-O-C_{1-3}$ -alkylene- $C_{3-7}$ -cycloalkylene- $C_{1-3}$ -alkylene group, wherein the oxygen atom thereof in each case is linked to the bicyclic heteroaromatic moiety of formula (I),

- (b) an  $-O-C_{1-6}$ -alkylene group substituted by an  $R_6O-CO$  or  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group, wherein the oxygen atom of the  $-O-C_{1-6}$ -alkylene group is linked to the bicyclic heteroaromatic moiety of formula (I),
- (c) an  $-O-C_{2-6}$ -alkylene group substituted at a position other than position 1 by a hydroxy,  $C_{1-4}$ -alkoxy, amino,  $C_{1-4}$ -alkylamino, di- $(C_{1-4}$ -alkyl)-amino, pyrrolidino, piperidino, morpholino, piperazino, or 4- $(C_{1-4}$ -alkyl)-piperazino group and the oxygen atom of the  $-O-C_{2-6}$ -alkylene group is linked to the bicyclic heteroaromatic moiety of formula (I),
- (d) a  $-C_{1-6}$ -alkylene group,
- (e) an  $-NR_4-C_{1-6}$ -alkylene,  $-NR_4-C_{3-7}$ -cycloalkylene,  $-NR_4-C_{1-3}$ -alkylene- $C_{3-7}$ -cycloalkylene,  $-NR_4-C_{3-7}$ -cycloalkylene- $C_{1-3}$ -alkylene, or  $-NR_4-C_{1-3}$ -alkylene- $C_{3-7}$ -cycloalkylene- $C_{1-3}$ -alkylene group, wherein the  $-NR_4-$  moiety thereof in each case is linked to the bicyclic heteroaromatic moiety of formula (I),
- (f) an oxygen atom linked to a carbon atom of the group D, and
- (g) a  $NR_4$  group linked to a carbon atom of the group D,

D is a group consisting of:

- (a) an  $R_6O-CO$ -alkylene- $NR_5$ ,  $(R_7O-PO-OR_8)$ -alkylene- $NR_5$ , or  $(R_7O-PO-R_9)$ -alkylene- $NR_5$  group wherein in each case the alkylene moiety thereof, which is straight-chained and contains 1 to 6 carbon atoms, is additionally optionally substituted by one or two  $C_{1-2}$ -alkyl groups or by an  $R_6O-CO$  or  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-2}$ -alkyl group,
- (b) a 4- to 7-membered alkyleneimino group substituted by an  $R_6O-CO$ ,  $(R_7O-PO-OR_8)$ ,  $(R_7O-PO-R_9)$ ,  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, bis- $(R_6O-CO)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl,  $(R_7O-PO-OR_8)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, or  $(R_7O-PO-R_9)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group,
- (c) a 4- to 7-membered alkyleneimino group substituted by two  $R_6O-CO$  or  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl groups or by an  $R_6OCO$  group and an  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group,

- (d) a piperazino or homopiperazino group in each case substituted at the 4 position by  $R_{10}$  and additionally substituted at a cyclic carbon atom thereof by an  $R_6O-CO$ ,  $(R_7O-PO-OR_8)$ ,  $(R_7O-PO-R_9)$ ,  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, bis- $(R_6O-CO)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl,  $(R_7O-PO-OR_8)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, or  $(R_7O-PO-R_9)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group,
- (e) a piperazino or homopiperazino group in each case substituted at the 4 position by  $R_{10}$  and additionally substituted at cyclic carbon atoms thereof by two  $R_6O-CO$  or  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl groups or by an  $R_6O-CO$  group and an  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group,
- (f) a piperazino or homopiperazino group substituted in each case at the 4 position by an  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, bis- $(R_6O-CO)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl,  $(R_7O-PO-OR_8)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, or  $(R_7O-PO-R_9)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group,
- (g) a piperazino or homopiperazino group substituted in each case at the 4 position by an  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, bis- $(R_6O-CO)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl,  $(R_7O-PO-OR_8)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, or  $(R_7O-PO-R_9)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group and additionally substituted at cyclic carbon atoms thereof by one or two  $R_6O-CO$  or  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl groups or by an  $R_6O-CO$  group and an  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group,
- (h) a morpholino or homomorpholino group substituted in each case by an  $R_6O-CO$ ,  $(R_7O-PO-OR_8)$ ,  $(R_7O-PO-R_9)$ ,  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, bis- $(R_6O-CO)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl,  $(R_7O-PO-OR_8)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, or  $(R_7O-PO-R_9)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group,
- (i) a morpholino or homomorpholino group substituted in each case by two  $R_6O-CO$  or  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl groups or by an  $R_6O-CO$  group and an  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group,
- (j) a pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, or hexahydroazepinyl group substituted in each case at the 1 position by  $R_{10}$ , wherein the 5- to 7-membered rings thereof in each case are additionally substituted at a carbon atom by an  $R_6O-CO$ ,  $(R_7O-PO-OR_8)$ ,  $(R_7O-PO-R_9)$ ,  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, bis- $(R_6O-CO)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl,  $(R_7O-PO-OR_8)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, or  $(R_7O-PO-R_9)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group,

- (k) a pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, or hexahydroazepinyl group substituted in each case at the 1 position by  $R_{10}$ , wherein the 5- to 7-membered rings thereof in each case are additionally substituted at carbon atoms thereof by two  $R_6O-CO$  or  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl groups or by an  $R_6O-CO$  group and an  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group,
- (l) a pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, or hexahydroazepinyl group substituted in each case at the 1 position by an  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, bis- $(R_6O-CO)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl,  $(R_7O-PO-OR_8)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, or  $(R_7O-PO-R_9)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group,
- (m) a pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, or hexahydroazepinyl group substituted in each case at the 1 position by an  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, bis- $(R_6O-CO)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl,  $(R_7O-PO-OR_8)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, or  $(R_7O-PO-R_9)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group, wherein the 5- to 7-membered rings thereof in each case are additionally substituted at carbon atoms thereof by one or two  $R_6O-CO$  or  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl groups or by an  $R_6O-CO$  group and an  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group,
- (n) a 2-oxomorpholino group optionally substituted by 1 to 4  $C_{1-2}$ -alkyl groups,
- (o) a 2-oxomorpholinyl group substituted at the 4 position by a hydrogen atom, or by a  $C_{1-4}$ -alkyl,  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl,  $(R_7O-PO-OR_8)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, or  $(R_7O-PO-R_9)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group, wherein the 2-oxomorpholinyl group is linked to a carbon atom of the group C, and
- (p) an  $R_{11}NR_5$  group, or

C and D together are a group consisting of:

- (a) a hydrogen, fluorine, or chlorine atom;
- (b) a  $C_{1-6}$ -alkoxy group,
- (c) a  $C_{2-6}$ -alkoxy group substituted at a position other than position 1 by a hydroxy,  $C_{1-4}$ -alkoxy, amino,  $C_{1-4}$ -alkylamino, di- $(C_{1-4}$ -alkyl)-amino, pyrrolidino, piperidino,

hexahydroazepino, morpholino, homomorpholino, piperazino, 4-(C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkyl)-piperazino, homopiperazino, 4-(C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkyl)-homopiperazino, or 1-imidazolyl group,

- (d) a C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkoxy group substituted by a pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, or hexahydroazepinyl group substituted at the 1 position by R<sub>10</sub>,
- (e) a C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkoxy group substituted by an R<sub>6</sub>O-CO, (R<sub>7</sub>O-PO-OR<sub>8</sub>), or (R<sub>7</sub>O-PO-R<sub>9</sub>) group,
- (f) a C<sub>3-7</sub>-cycloalkoxy or C<sub>3-7</sub>-cycloalkyl-C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkoxy group,
- (g) an amino, C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkylamino, di-(C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkyl)-amino, pyrrolidino, piperidino, hexahydroazepino, morpholino, homomorpholino, piperazino, 4-(C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkyl)-piperazino, homopiperazino, or 4-(C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkyl)-homopiperazino group, and
- (h) a 2-oxomorpholino group optionally substituted by 1 or 2 methyl groups,

with the proviso that:

- (i) at least one of the groups B or D, or A together with B, or C together with D contains an optionally substituted 2-oxomorpholinyl group, an (R<sub>7</sub>O-PO-OR<sub>8</sub>) or (R<sub>7</sub>O-PO-R<sub>9</sub>) group, or
- (ii) that at least one of the groups B or D contains an optionally substituted 2-oxotetrahydrofuran-3-yl, 2-oxotetrahydrofuran-4-yl, 2-oxotetrahydropyran-3-yl, 2-oxotetrahydropyran-4-yl, or 2-oxotetrahydropyran-5-yl group, or
- (iii) that at least one of the groups A, B, C, or D, or A together with B, or C together with D contains an R<sub>6</sub>O-CO group and additionally one of the groups A, B, C, or D, or A together with B, or C together with D contains a primary, secondary, or tertiary amino function, wherein the nitrogen atom of this amino function is not linked to a carbon atom of an aromatic group,

R<sub>c</sub> and R<sub>d</sub>, which are identical or different, each are a hydrogen, fluorine, or chlorine atom, or a methoxy group or a methyl group optionally substituted by a methoxy, dimethylamino, diethylamino, pyrrolidino, piperidino, or morpholino group;

R<sub>e</sub> and R<sub>f</sub>, which are identical or different, in each case are a hydrogen atom or a C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkyl group;

R<sub>g</sub> is a C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>3-7</sub>-cycloalkyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkoxy, or C<sub>5-7</sub>-cycloalkoxy group;

R<sub>4</sub> is a hydrogen atom or a C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkyl group;

R<sub>5</sub> is a hydrogen atom,

a C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkyl group optionally substituted by an R<sub>6</sub>O-CO, (R<sub>7</sub>O-PO-OR<sub>8</sub>), or (R<sub>7</sub>O-PO-R<sub>9</sub>) group,

a C<sub>2-4</sub>-alkyl group substituted at a position other than position 1 by a hydroxy, C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkoxy, amino, C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkylamino, or di-(C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkyl)-amino group, or by a 4- to 7-membered alkyleneimino group, wherein a methylene group at the 4 position of the 6- to 7-membered alkyleneimino group is optionally replaced by an oxygen or sulfur atom, or by a sulfinyl, sulfonyl, imino, or *N*-(C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkyl)-imino group, or

a C<sub>3-7</sub>-cycloalkyl or C<sub>3-7</sub>-cycloalkyl-C<sub>1-3</sub>-alkyl group;

R<sub>6</sub>, R<sub>7</sub>, and R<sub>8</sub>, which are identical or different, in each case are a hydrogen atom,

a C<sub>1-8</sub>-alkyl group optionally substituted at a position other than position 1 by a hydroxy, C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkoxy, amino, C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkylamino, or di-(C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkyl)-amino group or by a 4- to 7-membered alkyleneimino group, wherein a methylene group at the 4 position of the 6- to 7-membered alkyleneimino group is optionally replaced by an oxygen or sulfur atom, or by a sulfinyl, sulfonyl, imino, or *N*-(C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkyl)-imino group,

a C<sub>3-5</sub>-alkenyl or C<sub>3-5</sub>-alkynyl group, wherein the unsaturated moiety thereof is not linked to the oxygen atom, or

R<sub>9</sub> is a C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkyl, aryl, or aryl-C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkyl group;

R<sub>11</sub> is a 2-oxotetrahydrofuran-3-yl, 2-oxotetrahydrofuran-4-yl, 2-oxotetrahydropyran-3-yl, 2-oxotetrahydropyran-4-yl, or 2-oxotetrahydropyran-5-yl group each optionally substituted by one or two methyl groups;

R<sub>13</sub> is a fluorine, chlorine, bromine, or iodine atom, or a C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkyl, trifluoromethyl, or C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkoxy group, or two groups R<sub>13</sub>, if they are bound to adjacent carbon atoms, together are a C<sub>3-5</sub>-alkylene, methylenedioxy, or 1,3-butadien-1,4-ylene group,

-105-

monosubstituted by  $R_{12}$  and additionally mono- or disubstituted by  $R_{13}$ , wherein the substituents are identical or different,

or a tautomer, stereoisomer, or salt thereof.

2. The compound of formula (I) according to claim 1, wherein  $R_a$  is a hydrogen atom.

3. The compound of formula (I) according to claim 1, wherein:

$R_a$  is a hydrogen atom;

$R_b$  is a phenyl, benzyl, or 1-phenylethyl group wherein the phenyl nucleus is substituted in each case by  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ , and  $R_3$ , wherein:

$R_1$  and  $R_2$ , which are identical or different, each are:

- (i) a hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, or iodine atom;
- (ii) a methyl, ethyl, hydroxy, methoxy, ethoxy, amino, cyano, vinyl, or ethynyl group,
- (iii) an aryl, aryloxy, arylmethyl, or arylmethoxy group, or
- (iv) a methyl or methoxy group substituted by 1 to 3 fluorine atoms, or

$R_1$  together with  $R_2$ , if they are bound to adjacent carbon atoms, are a  $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-\text{CH}=\text{CH}$ ,  $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-\text{NH}$ , or  $-\text{CH}=\text{N}-\text{NH}$  group, and

$R_3$  is a hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, or bromine atom;

X is a nitrogen atom;

A is group consisting of:

- (a) an  $-\text{O}-\text{C}_{1-4}$ -alkylene,  $-\text{O}-\text{C}_{4-7}$ -cycloalkylene,  $-\text{O}-\text{C}_{1-3}$ -alkylene- $\text{C}_{3-7}$ -cycloalkylene,  $-\text{O}-\text{C}_{4-7}$ -cycloalkylene- $\text{C}_{1-3}$ -alkylene, or  $-\text{O}-\text{C}_{1-3}$ -alkylene- $\text{C}_{3-7}$ -cycloalkylene- $\text{C}_{1-3}$ -alkylene group, wherein the oxygen atom thereof in each case is linked to the bicyclic heteroaromatic moiety of formula (I),

- (b) an  $-O-C_{2-4}$ -alkylene group substituted at a position other than position 1 by a hydroxy group, wherein the oxygen atom of the  $-O-C_{2-4}$ -alkylene group is linked to the bicyclic heteroaromatic moiety of formula (I), or
- (c) an oxygen atom linked to a carbon atom of the group B,

B is a group consisting of:

- (a) an  $R_6O-CO$ -alkylene- $NR_5$ ,  $(R_7O-PO-OR_8)$ -alkylene- $NR_5$ , or  $(R_7O-PO-R_9)$ -alkylene- $NR_5$  group wherein in each case the alkylene moiety, which is straight-chained and contains 1 to 4 carbon atoms, is additionally optionally substituted by one or two  $C_{1-2}$ -alkyl groups or by an  $R_6O-CO$  or  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-2}$ -alkyl group,
- (b) a 4- to 7-membered alkyleneimino group substituted by an  $R_6O-CO$ ,  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, or bis- $(R_6O-CO)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group,
- (c) a 4- to 7-membered alkyleneimino group substituted by two  $R_6O-CO$  or  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl groups,
- (d) a piperazino or homopiperazino group substituted at the 4 position by  $R_{10}$  and additionally substituted at a cyclic carbon atom thereof by an  $R_6O-CO$ ,  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, or bis- $(R_6O-CO)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group,
- (e) a piperazino or homopiperazino group substituted at the 4 position by  $R_{10}$  and additionally substituted at cyclic carbon atoms thereof by two  $R_6O-CO$  or  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl groups,
- (f) a piperazino or homopiperazino group which in each case is substituted at the 4 position by an  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, bis- $(R_6O-CO)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl,  $(R_7O-PO-OR_8)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, or  $(R_7O-PO-R_9)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group,

- (g) a piperazino or homopiperazino group substituted in each case at the 4 position by an  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl or bis- $(R_6O-CO)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group and additionally substituted at cyclic carbon atoms thereof by one or two  $R_6O-CO$  or  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl groups,
- (h) a morpholino or homomorpholino group substituted in each case by an  $R_6O-CO$ ,  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, or bis- $(R_6O-CO)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group,
- (i) a morpholino or homomorpholino group substituted in each case by two  $R_6O-CO$  or  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl groups,
- (j) a pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, or hexahydroazepinyl group substituted in each case at the 1 position by  $R_{10}$ , wherein the 5- to 7-membered rings thereof in each case are additionally substituted at a carbon atom thereof by an  $R_6O-CO$ ,  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, or bis- $(R_6O-CO)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group,
- (k) a pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, or hexahydroazepinyl group substituted in each case at the 1 position by  $R_{10}$ , wherein the 5- to 7-membered rings thereof in each case are additionally substituted at carbon atoms thereof by two  $R_6O-CO$  or  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl groups,
- (l) a pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, or hexahydroazepinyl group substituted in each case at the 1 position by an  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, bis- $(R_6O-CO)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl,  $(R_7O-PO-OR_8)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, or  $(R_7O-PO-R_9)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group,
- (m) a pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, or hexahydroazepinyl group substituted in each case at the 1 position by an  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl or bis- $(R_6O-CO)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group, wherein the 5- to 7-membered rings thereof in each case are additionally substituted at carbon atoms thereof by one or two  $R_6O-CO$  or  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl groups,
- (n) a 2-oxomorpholino group optionally substituted by 1 to 4  $C_{1-2}$ -alkyl groups,

(o) a 2-oxomorpholinyl group substituted at the 4 position by a hydrogen atom, or by a  $C_{1-4}$ -alkyl or  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group, wherein the 2-oxomorpholinyl group is linked to a carbon atom of the group A, and

(p) an  $R_{11}NR_5$  group, or

A together with B are a group consisting of:

(a) a hydrogen atom,

(b) a  $C_{1-4}$ -alkoxy group,

(c) a  $C_{2-4}$ -alkoxy group substituted at a position other than position 1 by a hydroxy,  $C_{1-4}$ -alkoxy, amino,  $C_{1-4}$ -alkylamino, di- $(C_{1-4}$ -alkyl)-amino, pyrrolidino, piperidino, morpholino, piperazino, or 4- $(C_{1-4}$ -alkyl)-piperazino group,

(d) a  $C_{1-4}$ -alkoxy group substituted by a pyrrolidinyl or piperidinyl group substituted at the 1 position by  $R_{10}$ ,

(e) a  $C_{1-4}$ -alkoxy group substituted by an  $R_6O-CO$  group, and

(f) a  $C_{4-7}$ -cycloalkoxy or  $C_{3-7}$ -cycloalkyl- $C_{1-4}$ -alkoxy group;

C is a group consisting of:

(a) an  $-O-C_{1-4}$ -alkylene,  $-O-C_{4-7}$ -cycloalkylene,  $-O-C_{1-3}$ -alkylene- $C_{3-7}$ -cycloalkylene,  $-O-C_{4-7}$ -cycloalkylene- $C_{1-3}$ -alkylene, or  $-O-C_{1-3}$ -alkylene- $C_{3-7}$ -cycloalkylene- $C_{1-3}$ -alkylene group, wherein the oxygen atom thereof in each case is linked to the bicyclic heteroaromatic moiety of formula (I),

(b) an  $-O-C_{2-4}$ -alkylene group substituted at a position other than position 1 by a hydroxy group, wherein the oxygen atom of the  $-O-C_{2-4}$ -alkylene group is linked to the bicyclic heteroaromatic moiety of formula (I), and

- (c) an oxygen atom linked to a carbon atom of the group D,

D is a group consisting of:

- (a) an  $R_6O-CO$ -alkylene- $NR_5$ ,  $(R_7O-PO-OR_8)$ -alkylene- $NR_5$ , or  $(R_7O-PO-R_9)$ -alkylene- $NR_5$  group wherein in each case the alkylene moiety, which is straight-chained and contains 1 to 4 carbon atoms, is additionally optionally substituted by one or two  $C_{1-2}$ -alkyl groups or by an  $R_6O-CO$  or  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-2}$ -alkyl group,
- (b) a 4- to 7-membered alkyleneimino group substituted by an  $R_6O-CO$ ,  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, or bis- $(R_6O-CO)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group,
- (c) a 4- to 7-membered alkyleneimino group substituted by two  $R_6O-CO$  or  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl groups,
- (d) a piperazino or homopiperazino group substituted at the 4 position by  $R_{10}$  and additionally at a cyclic carbon atom thereof by an  $R_6O-CO$ ,  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, or bis- $(R_6O-CO)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group,
- (e) a piperazino or homopiperazino group substituted at the 4 position by  $R_{10}$  and additionally substituted at cyclic carbon atoms thereof by two  $R_6O-CO$  or  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl groups,
- (f) a piperazino or homopiperazino group substituted in each case at the 4 position by an  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, bis- $(R_6O-CO)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl,  $(R_7O-PO-OR_8)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, or  $(R_7O-PO-R_9)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group,
- (g) a piperazino or homopiperazino group substituted at the 4 position by an  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl or bis- $(R_6O-CO)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group and additionally substituted at cyclic carbon atoms thereof by one or two  $R_6O-CO$  or  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl groups,
- (h) a morpholino or homomorpholino group substituted in each case by an  $R_6O-CO$ ,  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, or bis- $(R_6O-CO)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group,

- (i) a morpholino or homomorpholino group substituted by two  $R_6O-CO$  or  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl groups,
- (j) a pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, or hexahydroazepinyl group substituted at the 1 position by  $R_{10}$ , wherein the 5- to 7-membered rings thereof in each case are additionally substituted at a carbon atom thereof by an  $R_6O-CO$ ,  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, or bis- $(R_6O-CO)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group,
- (k) a pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, or hexahydroazepinyl group substituted at the 1 position by  $R_{10}$ , wherein the 5- to 7-membered rings thereof in each case are additionally substituted at carbon atoms thereof by two  $R_6O-CO$  or  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl groups,
- (l) a pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, or hexahydroazepinyl group substituted at the 1 position by an  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, bis- $(R_6O-CO)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl,  $(R_7O-PO-OR_8)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, or  $(R_7O-PO-R_9)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group,
- (m) a pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, or hexahydroazepinyl group substituted at the 1 position by an  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl or bis- $(R_6O-CO)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group, wherein the 5- to 7-membered rings thereof in each case are additionally substituted at carbon atoms thereof by one or two  $R_6O-CO$  or  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl groups,
- (n) a 2-oxomorpholino group optionally substituted by 1 to 4  $C_{1-2}$ -alkyl groups,
- (o) a 2-oxomorpholinyl group substituted at the 4 position by a hydrogen atom, or by a  $C_{1-4}$ -alkyl or  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group, wherein the 2-oxomorpholinyl group is linked to a carbon atom of the group C, and
- (p) an  $R_{11}NR_5$  group, or

C together with D are a group consisting of:

- (a) a hydrogen atom,

- (b) a C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkoxy group,
- (c) a C<sub>2-4</sub>-alkoxy group substituted at a position other than position 1 by a hydroxy, C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkoxy, amino, C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkylamino, di-(C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkyl)-amino, pyrrolidino, piperidino, morpholino, piperazino, or 4-(C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkyl)-piperazino group,
- (d) a C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkoxy group substituted by a pyrrolidinyl or piperidinyl group substituted at the 1 position by R<sub>10</sub>,
- (e) a C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkoxy group substituted by an R<sub>6</sub>O-CO group, and
- (f) a C<sub>4-7</sub>-cycloalkoxy or C<sub>3-7</sub>-cycloalkyl-C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkoxy group;

R<sub>c</sub> and R<sub>d</sub> in each case are a hydrogen atom;

R<sub>e</sub> and R<sub>f</sub>, which are identical or different, in each case are a hydrogen atom or a C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkyl group;

R<sub>g</sub> is a C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>3-6</sub>-cycloalkyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkoxy, or C<sub>5-6</sub>-cycloalkoxy group;

R<sub>5</sub> is a hydrogen atom,

a C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkyl group optionally substituted by an R<sub>6</sub>O-CO group,

a C<sub>2-4</sub>-alkyl group substituted at a position other than position 1 by a hydroxy or C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkoxy group, or

a C<sub>3-6</sub>-cycloalkyl or C<sub>3-6</sub>-cycloalkyl-C<sub>1-3</sub>-alkyl group;

R<sub>6</sub>, R<sub>7</sub>, and R<sub>8</sub>, which are identical or different, in each case are a hydrogen atom,

a C<sub>1-8</sub>-alkyl group optionally substituted at a position other than position 1 by a hydroxy, C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkoxy, or di-(C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkyl)-amino group or by a 4- to 7-membered alkyleneimino group, wherein a methylene group at the 4 position of the 6- to 7-membered alkyleneimino group is optionally replaced by an oxygen atom or by an *N*-(C<sub>1-2</sub>-alkyl)-imino group,

a C<sub>4-6</sub>-cycloalkyl group,

a C<sub>3-5</sub>-alkenyl or C<sub>3-5</sub>-alkynyl group, wherein the unsaturated moiety is not linked to the oxygen atom,

a C<sub>3-6</sub>-cycloalkyl-C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkyl, aryl, aryl-C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkyl, or R<sub>g</sub>CO-O-(R<sub>e</sub>CR<sub>f</sub>) group, wherein

R<sub>9</sub> is a C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkyl group;

R<sub>10</sub> is a hydrogen atom, or a methyl or ethyl group;

R<sub>11</sub> is a 2-oxotetrahydrofuran-3-yl, 2-oxotetrahydrofuran-4-yl, 2-oxotetrahydropyran-3-yl, 2-oxotetrahydropyran-4-yl, or 2-oxotetrahydropyran-5-yl group optionally substituted by one or two methyl groups;

R<sub>12</sub> is a cyano, C<sub>1-2</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, C<sub>1-2</sub>-alkylaminocarbonyl, di-(C<sub>1-2</sub>-alkyl)-aminocarbonyl, C<sub>1-2</sub>-alkylsulfenyl, C<sub>1-2</sub>-alkylsulfinyl, C<sub>1-2</sub>-alkylsulfonyl, hydroxy, nitro, amino, C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkylamino, or di-(C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkyl)-amino group; and

R<sub>13</sub> is a fluorine, chlorine, bromine, or iodine atom, or a C<sub>1-2</sub>-alkyl, trifluoromethyl, or C<sub>1-2</sub>-alkoxy group, or two groups R<sub>13</sub>, if they are bound to adjacent carbon atoms, together are a C<sub>3-5</sub>-alkylene, methylenedioxy, or 1,3-butadien-1,4-ylene group,

or a tautomer, stereoisomer, or salt thereof.

4. The compound of formula (I) according to claim 1, wherein:

R<sub>a</sub> is a hydrogen atom,

R<sub>b</sub> is a phenyl, benzyl, or 1-phenylethyl group wherein the phenyl nucleus is substituted in each case by R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, and R<sub>3</sub>, wherein:

R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub>, which are identical or different, each are:

- (i) a hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, or bromine atom, or
- (ii) a methyl, trifluoromethyl, methoxy, ethynyl, or cyano group, and

R<sub>3</sub> is a hydrogen atom;

X is a nitrogen atom;

A is an -O-C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkylene or -O-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH(OH)-CH<sub>2</sub> group, wherein the oxygen atom thereof in each case is linked to the bicyclic heteroaromatic moiety of formula (I);

B is a group consisting of:

- (a) an R<sub>6</sub>O-CO-alkylene-NR<sub>5</sub> group wherein the alkylene moiety, which is straight-chained and contains 1 or 2 carbon atoms, is additionally optionally substituted by an R<sub>6</sub>O-CO or R<sub>6</sub>O-CO-methyl group;
- (b) a pyrrolidino or piperidino group substituted by an R<sub>6</sub>O-CO or R<sub>6</sub>O-CO-C<sub>1-2</sub>-alkyl group,
- (c) a pyrrolidino or piperidino group substituted by two R<sub>6</sub>O-CO or R<sub>6</sub>O-CO-C<sub>1-2</sub>-alkyl groups,
- (d) a piperazino group substituted at the 4 position by R<sub>10</sub> and additionally at a cyclic carbon atom thereof by an R<sub>6</sub>O-CO or R<sub>6</sub>O-CO-C<sub>1-2</sub>-alkyl group,
- (e) a piperazino group substituted at the 4 position by an R<sub>6</sub>O-CO-C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkyl, bis-(R<sub>6</sub>O-CO)-C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkyl, (R<sub>7</sub>O-PO-OR<sub>8</sub>)-methyl, or (R<sub>7</sub>O-PO-R<sub>9</sub>)-methyl group,

- (f) a piperazino group substituted at the 4 position by an  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-2}$ -alkyl group and additionally at a cyclic carbon atom thereof by an  $R_6O-CO$  or  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-2}$ -alkyl group,
- (g) a morpholino group substituted by an  $R_6O-CO$  or  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-2}$ -alkyl group,
- (h) a pyrrolidinyl or piperidinyl group substituted at the 1 position by an  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, bis- $(R_6O-CO)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl,  $(R_7O-PO-OR_8)$ -methyl, or  $(R_7O-PO-R_9)$ -methyl group,
- (i) a 2-oxomorpholino group optionally substituted by 1 or 2 methyl groups,
- (j) a 2-oxomorpholinyl group substituted at the 4 position by a methyl, ethyl, or  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-2}$ -alkyl group, wherein the 2-oxomorpholinyl group is linked to a carbon atom of the group A, and
- (k) a  $R_{11}N(C_{1-2}$ -alkyl) group, or

A and together with B are a group consisting of:

- (a) a hydrogen atom, or a methoxy, ethoxy, or 2-methoxyethoxy group,
- (b) a  $C_{1-2}$ -alkoxy group substituted by an  $R_6O-CO$  group, and
- (c) a  $C_{4-6}$ -cycloalkoxy or  $C_{3-6}$ -cycloalkyl- $C_{1-3}$ -alkoxy group;

C is an  $-O-C_{1-4}$ -alkylene or  $-O-CH_2-CH(OH)-CH_2$  group, wherein the oxygen atom thereof in each case is linked to the bicyclic heteroaromatic moiety of formula (I),

D is a group consisting of:

- (a) an  $R_6O-CO$ -alkylene- $NR_5$  group wherein the alkylene moiety, which is straight-chained and contains 1 or 2 carbon atoms, is additionally optionally substituted by an  $R_6O-CO$  or  $R_6O-CO$ -methyl group,

- (b) a pyrrolidino or piperidino group substituted by an  $R_6O-CO$  or  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-2}$ -alkyl group,
- (c) a pyrrolidino or piperidino group substituted by two  $R_6O-CO$  or  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-2}$ -alkyl groups,
- (d) a piperazino group substituted at the 4 position by  $R_{10}$  and additionally substituted at a cyclic carbon atom thereof by an  $R_6O-CO$  or  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-2}$ -alkyl group,
- (e) a piperazino group substituted at the 4 position by an  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, bis- $(R_6O-CO)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl,  $(R_7O-PO-OR_8)$ -methyl, or  $(R_7O-PO-R_9)$ -methyl group,
- (f) a piperazino group substituted at the 4 position by an  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-2}$ -alkyl group and additionally substituted at a cyclic carbon atom thereof by an  $R_6O-CO$  or  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-2}$ -alkyl group,
- (g) a morpholino group substituted by an  $R_6O-CO$  or  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-2}$ -alkyl group,
- (h) a pyrrolidinyl or piperidinyl group substituted at the 1 position by an  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, bis- $(R_6O-CO)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl,  $(R_7O-PO-OR_8)$ -methyl, or  $(R_7O-PO-R_9)$ -methyl group,
- (i) a 2-oxomorpholino group optionally substituted by 1 or 2 methyl groups,
- (j) a 2-oxomorpholinyl group substituted at the 4 position by a methyl, ethyl, or  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-2}$ -alkyl group, wherein the 2-oxomorpholinyl group is linked to a carbon atom of the group C, and
- (k) a  $R_{11}N(C_{1-2}\text{-alkyl})$  group, or

C together with D are a group consisting of:

- (a) a hydrogen atom, or a methoxy, ethoxy, or 2-methoxyethoxy group,
- (b) a C<sub>1-2</sub>-alkoxy group substituted by an R<sub>6</sub>O-CO group, and
- (c) a C<sub>4-6</sub>-cycloalkoxy or C<sub>3-6</sub>-cycloalkyl-C<sub>1-3</sub>-alkoxy group;

R<sub>c</sub> and R<sub>d</sub> in each case are a hydrogen atom;

R<sub>e</sub> is a hydrogen atom or a C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkyl group;

R<sub>f</sub> is a hydrogen atom;

R<sub>g</sub> is a C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkoxy, cyclopentyloxy, or cyclohexyloxy group;

R<sub>5</sub> is a hydrogen atom,

a C<sub>1-2</sub>-alkyl group optionally substituted by an R<sub>6</sub>O-CO group,

a C<sub>2-4</sub>-alkyl group substituted at a position other than position 1 by a hydroxy group, or

a C<sub>3-6</sub>-cycloalkyl or C<sub>3-6</sub>-cycloalkylmethyl group;

R<sub>6</sub> is a hydrogen atom, or a C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl, cyclopentyl, cyclopentylmethyl, cyclohexyl, cyclohexylmethyl, phenyl, benzyl, 5-indanyl, or R<sub>g</sub>CO-O-(R<sub>e</sub>CR<sub>f</sub>) group;

R<sub>7</sub> and R<sub>8</sub>, which are identical or different, in each case are a hydrogen atom, or a methyl, ethyl, phenyl, benzyl, 5-indanyl, or R<sub>g</sub>CO-O-(R<sub>e</sub>CR<sub>f</sub>) group;

R<sub>9</sub> is a methyl or ethyl group;

R<sub>10</sub> is a hydrogen atom, or a methyl or ethyl group; and

R<sub>11</sub> is a 2-oxotetrahydrofuran-3-yl or 2-oxotetrahydrofuran-4-yl group,

or a tautomer, stereoisomer, or salt thereof.

5. The compound of formula (I) according to claim 1, wherein:

R<sub>a</sub> is a hydrogen atom;

R<sub>b</sub> is a phenyl, benzyl, or 1-phenylethyl group wherein the phenyl nucleus is substituted in each case by R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, and R<sub>3</sub>, wherein:

R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub>, which are identical or different, each are a hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, or bromine atom, or a methyl, trifluoromethyl, methoxy, ethynyl, or cyano group, and

R<sub>3</sub> is a hydrogen atom;

X is a nitrogen atom;

A is an -O-C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkylene or -O-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH(OH)-CH<sub>2</sub> group, wherein the oxygen atom thereof in each case is linked to the bicyclic heteroaromatic moiety of formula (I);

B is a group consisting of:

(a) a R<sub>6</sub>O-CO-alkylene-NR<sub>5</sub> group wherein the alkylene moiety, which is straight-chained and contains 1 or 2 carbon atoms, is additionally optionally substituted by an R<sub>6</sub>O-CO or R<sub>6</sub>O-CO-methyl group,

(b) a pyrrolidino or piperidino group substituted by an R<sub>6</sub>O-CO or R<sub>6</sub>O-CO-C<sub>1-2</sub>-alkyl group,

(c) a pyrrolidino or piperidino group substituted by two R<sub>6</sub>O-CO or R<sub>6</sub>O-CO-C<sub>1-2</sub>-alkyl groups,

- (d) a piperazino group substituted at the 4 position by  $R_{10}$  and additionally substituted at a cyclic carbon atom thereof by an  $R_6O-CO$  or  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-2}$ -alkyl group,
- (e) a piperazino group substituted at the 4 position by an  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, bis- $(R_6O-CO)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl,  $(R_7O-PO-OR_8)$ -methyl, or  $(R_7O-PO-R_9)$ -methyl group,
- (f) a piperazino group substituted at the 4 position by an  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-2}$ -alkyl group and additionally substituted at a cyclic carbon atom thereof by an  $R_6O-CO$  or  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-2}$ -alkyl group,
- (g) a morpholino group substituted by an  $R_6O-CO$  or  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-2}$ -alkyl group,
- (h) a pyrrolidinyl or piperidinyl group substituted at the 1 position by an  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, bis- $(R_6O-CO)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl,  $(R_7O-PO-OR_8)$ -methyl, or  $(R_7O-PO-R_9)$ -methyl group,
- (i) a 2-oxomorpholino group optionally substituted by 1 or 2 methyl groups,
- (j) a 2-oxomorpholinyl group substituted at the 4 position by a methyl, ethyl, or  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-2}$ -alkyl group, wherein the 2-oxomorpholinyl group is linked to a carbon atom of the group A, and
- (k) a  $R_{11}N(C_{1-2}\text{-alkyl})$  group, or

C together with D are a group consisting of a hydrogen atom, and a methoxy, ethoxy, 2-methoxyethoxy,  $C_{4-6}$ -cycloalkoxy, and  $C_{3-6}$ -cycloalkyl- $C_{1-3}$ -alkoxy group;

$R_c$  and  $R_d$  in each case are a hydrogen atom;

$R_e$  is a hydrogen atom or a  $C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group;

$R_f$  is a hydrogen atom;

$R_g$  is a  $C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl,  $C_{1-4}$ -alkoxy, cyclopentyloxy, or cyclohexyloxy group;

$R_5$  is a hydrogen atom,

a  $C_{1-2}$ -alkyl group optionally substituted by an  $R_6O-CO$  group,

a  $C_{2-4}$ -alkyl group substituted at a position other than position 1 by a hydroxy group, or

a  $C_{3-6}$ -cycloalkyl or  $C_{3-6}$ -cycloalkylmethyl group;

$R_6$  is a hydrogen atom, or a  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl, cyclopentyl, cyclopentylmethyl, cyclohexyl, cyclohexylmethyl, phenyl, benzyl, 5-indanyl, or  $R_gCO-O-(R_eCR_f)$  group;

$R_7$  and  $R_8$ , which are identical or different, in each case are a hydrogen atom, or a methyl, ethyl, phenyl, benzyl, 5-indanyl, or  $R_gCO-O-(R_eCR_f)$  group;

$R_9$  is a methyl or ethyl group;

$R_{10}$  is a hydrogen atom, or a methyl or ethyl group; and

$R_{11}$  is a 2-oxotetrahydrofuran-3-yl or 2-oxotetrahydrofuran-4-yl group,

or a tautomer, stereoisomer, or salt thereof.

6. The compound of formula (I) according to claim 1, wherein:

$R_a$  is a hydrogen atom;

$R_b$  is a phenyl, benzyl, or 1-phenylethyl group wherein the phenyl nucleus is substituted in each case by  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ , and  $R_3$ , wherein:

R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub>, which are identical or different, each are:

- (i) a hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, or bromine atom, or
  - (ii) a methyl, trifluoromethyl, methoxy, ethynyl, or cyano group, and
- R<sub>3</sub> is a hydrogen atom;

X is a nitrogen atom;

A together with B are a group consisting of: a hydrogen atom, or a methoxy, ethoxy, 2-methoxyethoxy, C<sub>4-6</sub>-cycloalkoxy, or C<sub>3-6</sub>-cycloalkyl-C<sub>1-3</sub>-alkoxy group;

C is an -O-C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkylene or -O-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH(OH)-CH<sub>2</sub> group, wherein the oxygen atom thereof in each case is linked to the bicyclic heteroaromatic moiety of formula (I);

D is a group consisting of:

- (a) R<sub>6</sub>O-CO-alkylene-NR<sub>5</sub> group wherein the alkylene moiety, which is straight-chained and contains 1 or 2 carbon atoms, is additionally optionally substituted by an R<sub>6</sub>O-CO or R<sub>6</sub>O-CO-methyl group,
- (b) a pyrrolidino or piperidino group substituted by an R<sub>6</sub>O-CO or R<sub>6</sub>O-CO-C<sub>1-2</sub>-alkyl group,
- (c) a pyrrolidino or piperidino group substituted by two R<sub>6</sub>O-CO or R<sub>6</sub>O-CO-C<sub>1-2</sub>-alkyl groups,
- (d) a piperazino group substituted at the 4 position by R<sub>10</sub> and additionally at a cyclic carbon atom thereof by an R<sub>6</sub>O-CO or R<sub>6</sub>O-CO-C<sub>1-2</sub>-alkyl group,
- (e) a piperazino group substituted at the 4 position by an R<sub>6</sub>O-CO-C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkyl, bis-(R<sub>6</sub>O-CO)-C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkyl, (R<sub>7</sub>O-PO-OR<sub>8</sub>)-methyl, or (R<sub>7</sub>O-PO-R<sub>9</sub>)-methyl group,

- (f) a piperazino group substituted at the 4 position by an  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-2}$ -alkyl group and additionally substituted at a cyclic carbon atom thereof by an  $R_6O-CO$  or  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-2}$ -alkyl group,
- (g) a morpholino group substituted by an  $R_6O-CO$  or  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-2}$ -alkyl group,
- (h) a pyrrolidinyl or piperidinyl group substituted at the 1 position by an  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, bis- $(R_6O-CO)-C_{1-4}$ -alkyl,  $(R_7O-PO-OR_8)$ -methyl, or  $(R_7O-PO-R_9)$ -methyl group,
- (i) a 2-oxomorpholino group optionally substituted by 1 or 2 methyl groups,
- (j) a 2-oxomorpholinyl group substituted at the 4 position by a methyl, ethyl, or  $R_6O-CO-C_{1-2}$ -alkyl group, wherein the 2-oxomorpholinyl group is linked to a carbon atom of the group C, and
- (k) a  $R_{11}N(C_{1-2}\text{-alkyl})$  group;

$R_c$  and  $R_d$  in each case are a hydrogen atom;

$R_e$  is a hydrogen atom or a  $C_{1-4}$ -alkyl group;

$R_f$  is a hydrogen atom;

$R_g$  is a  $C_{1-4}$ -alkyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl,  $C_{1-4}$ -alkoxy, cyclopentyloxy, or cyclohexyloxy group;

$R_5$  is a hydrogen atom,

a  $C_{1-2}$ -alkyl group optionally substituted by an  $R_6O-CO$  group,

a  $C_{2-4}$ -alkyl group substituted at position 2 by a hydroxy group, or

a C<sub>3-6</sub>-cycloalkyl or C<sub>3-6</sub>-cycloalkylmethyl group;

R<sub>6</sub> is a hydrogen atom, or

a C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl, cyclopentyl, cyclopentylmethyl, cyclohexyl, cyclohexylmethyl, phenyl, benzyl, 5-indanyl, or R<sub>g</sub>CO-O-(R<sub>e</sub>CR<sub>f</sub>) group;

R<sub>7</sub> and R<sub>8</sub>, which are identical or different, in each case are a hydrogen atom, or a methyl, ethyl, phenyl, benzyl, 5-indanyl, or R<sub>g</sub>CO-O-(R<sub>e</sub>CR<sub>f</sub>) group;

R<sub>9</sub> is a methyl or ethyl group;

R<sub>10</sub> is a hydrogen atom, or a methyl or ethyl group;

R<sub>11</sub> is a 2-oxotetrahydrofuran-3-yl or 2-oxotetrahydrofuran-4-yl group,

or a tautomer, stereoisomer, or salt thereof.

7. The compound of formula (I) according to claim 1, wherein:

R<sub>a</sub> is a hydrogen atom;

R<sub>b</sub> is a phenyl group wherein the phenyl nucleus is substituted in each case by R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, and R<sub>3</sub>, wherein:

R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub>, which are identical or different, each are a hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, or bromine atom, and

R<sub>3</sub> is a hydrogen atom;

X is a nitrogen atom;

A is an  $-O-C_{1-4}$ -alkylene or  $-O-CH_2-CH(OH)-CH_2$  group, wherein the oxygen atom thereof in each case is linked to the bicyclic heteroaromatic moiety of formula (I);

B is a group consisting of:

- (a) an  $R_6O-CO-CH_2-NR_5$  group;
- (b) a pyrrolidino or piperidino group substituted by an  $R_6O-CO$  group,
- (c) a piperazino group substituted at the 4 position by an  $R_6O-CO-CH_2$  or bis- $(R_6O-CO)-C_{1-3}$ -alkyl group,
- (d) a pyrrolidinyl or piperidinyl group substituted at the 1 position by an  $R_6O-CO-CH_2$  group,
- (e) a 2-oxomorpholino group optionally substituted by one or two methyl groups, or
- (f) a  $R_{11}N(C_{1-2}$ -alkyl) group, or

C together with D is a group consisting of a methoxy,  $C_{4-6}$ -cycloalkoxy, or  $C_{3-6}$ -cycloalkylmethoxy group;

$R_c$  and  $R_d$  in each case are a hydrogen atom;

$R_5$  is a hydrogen atom or a methyl group optionally substituted by an  $R_6O-CO$  group, or

a  $C_{2-4}$ -alkyl group substituted at a position other than position 1 by a hydroxy group;

$R_6$  is a hydrogen atom, or a methyl or ethyl group;

$R_{11}$  is a 2-oxotetrahydrofuran-3-yl or 2-oxotetrahydrofuran-4-yl group, and

or a tautomer, stereoisomer, or salt thereof.

8. A compound selected from the group consisting of:

- (1) 4-(3-chloro-4-fluorophenylamino)-6-{3-[4-(methoxycarbonylmethyl)-1-piperazinyl]propyloxy}-7-methoxyquinazoline;
- (2) 4-[(3-bromophenyl)amino]-6-(2-{4-[(ethoxycarbonyl)methyl]piperazin-1-yl}ethoxy)-7-methoxyquinazoline;
- (3) (*S*)-4-[(3-bromophenyl)amino]-6-[3-(2-methoxycarbonylpyrrolidin-1-yl)propyloxy]-7-methoxyquinazoline;
- (4) 4-[(3-bromophenyl)amino]-6-(3-{4-[(ethoxycarbonyl)methyl]piperazin-1-yl}-2-hydroxypropyloxy)-7-methoxyquinazoline;
- (5) (*S*)-4-[(3-bromophenyl)amino]-6-({1-[(ethoxycarbonyl)methyl]pyrrolidine-2-yl}methoxy)-7-methoxyquinazoline; and
- (6) 4-[(3-bromophenyl)amino]-6-(2-{4-[1,2-bis(methoxycarbonyl)ethyl]piperazin-1-yl}ethoxy)-7-methoxyquinazoline,

and the salts thereof.

9. The compound according to one of claims 1 to 8, wherein the compound is a physiologically acceptable salt.

10. A pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of a compound of formula (I) according to one of claims 1 to 8 and an inert carrier or diluent.

11. A pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of a compound of formula (I) according to claim 9 and an inert carrier or diluent.

13. A method for treatment or prophylaxis of benign or malignant tumors, diseases of the airways and lungs, polyps, diseases of the gastrointestinal tract, bile duct, gall bladder, kidneys, and skin, in a host in need of such treatment or prophylaxis, which method comprises administering the host an effective amount of a compound according to claim 9.